

APR 03 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Case Docket No. 6563

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231Part of
#17

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a RESPONSE/AMENDMENT for the patent application:

Inventor(s): Gary Dean LaVon, et al.

Serial No.: 08/828,005

Group Art Unit: 3761

Date Filed: March 27, 1997

Examiner: K. Reichle

Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLES HAVING REMOVABLE COMPONENTS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope
addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington,
D.C. 20231,
on March 29, 2000Joan B. Tucker 43,962
Agent Name Registration No.
Signature of Agent

1. ☒ No additional fee is known to be required.
2. ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1)		(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)	OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA*	RATE	FEE
TOTAL	*	MINUS	**	= 0	x \$18 =	\$0.00
INDEP.	*	MINUS	***	=	x \$78 =	\$0.00
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM					+ \$260 =	\$0.00
					TOTAL	\$0.00

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

** If the highest number of total claims previously paid for is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the highest number of independent claims previously paid for is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

3. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby petitioned under 37 CFR §1.136(a) to grant any extension of time needed for timely response to the Office Action dated November 9, 1999 in the above-identified application to preserve pendency of said application. The processing fee under 37 CFR §1.17 has been determined as follows: \$380.00 for a two month extension of time.
4. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-2480. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.
 - a. ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.16.
 - b. ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17.
5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to make any additional copies of this sheet needed to accomplish the purposes provided for herein and to charge any fee for such copies to Deposit Account No. 16-2480.

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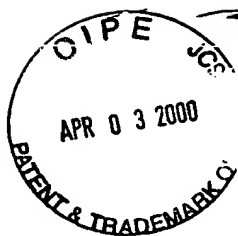
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March 29, 2000
Cincinnati, Ohio

Transmittal.doc

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Joan B. Tucker 43,962
Name of Agent Reg. No.
Joan B. Tucker
Signature of Agent

R/K

#17/E
w/Ext
2mo

Case 6563

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of :
Gary Dean LaVon et al. :
Serial No.: 08/828,005 : Group Art Unit 3761
Filed: March 27, 1997 : Examiner K. Reichle
Title: Absorbent Articles Having Removable :
Components :

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the November 9, 1999 Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the accompanying remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the Summary of the Invention and insert therefor

Sub
#2

E1

The present invention relates to absorbent articles suitable for absorbing and retaining aqueous body fluids. The absorbent article comprises at least one removable absorbent core component, a first waist region, a second waist region, and a crotch region positioned between the first waist region and the second waist region. The absorbent article further comprises: (a) a backsheet joined to a fluid pervious topsheet, the backsheet comprising a web; and (b) an absorbent core disposed between the topsheet and the backsheet, the absorbent core comprising a non-removable first absorbent core component disposed in at least the crotch region and at least one removable second absorbent core component removably disposed in the first waist region and in fluid communication with the first absorbent core component; wherein the backsheet further comprises first access means for providing access to the removable second absorbent core component through the backsheet so that the removable second absorbent core component may be removed from the absorbent article through the backsheet without having to remove the absorbent article from a wearer, the first access means comprising a first discontinuity being positioned in the